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GEORGIA MAN PLEADS GUILTY TO FEDERAL DRUG CHARGE

HUNTINGTON, W.Va. – Orlandus T. Clark, 30, of Atlanta, Georgia, pleaded guilty yesterday in federal court before United States District Judge Robert C. Chambers to conspiracy to distribute 28 grams or more of crack cocaine. Clark admitted that from between the summer of 2007 until the fall of 2010, he participated in a drug trafficking organization that brought various controlled substances, including cocaine and crack cocaine, from the Atlanta, Georgia area to Huntington to be distributed. Clark further admitted that he and other associates of the organization recruited Huntington residents to support their efforts by securing apartments and/or residences in and around Huntington for the purpose of preparing, storing, and distributing controlled substances. On or about April 21, 2009, Clark distributed 4.5 grams of crack cocaine to a confidential informant working at the direction of the Drug Enforcement Administration and Huntington Police Department.

Clark faces up to 40 years in prison and a \$5 million fine when he is sentenced on October 17, 2011.

The investigation was conducted by the Drug Enforcement Administration. Special Assistant United States Attorney Joseph F. Adams is in charge of the prosecution.

This case is being brought as part of the Department of Justice Weed & Seed initiative. In 1991, the Department of Justice established Weed & Seed which is administered by the Community Capacity Development Office (CCDO). Weed & Seed utilizes a community-based, multi-agency approach to law enforcement, crime prevention and neighborhood restoration to better control violent crime, drug trafficking and drug-related crime in designated high-crime neighborhoods and to provide a safe environment for residents. The Fairfield area in the City of Huntington is a Weed & Seed Community (WSC).

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HUNTINGTON MAN PLEADS GUILTY TO FEDERAL DRUG CHARGE

HUNTINGTON, W.Va. – Andre Duvall Scott, 30, of Huntington, pleaded guilty yesterday before United States District Judge Robert C. Chambers to distribution of a quantity of crack cocaine. The defendant admitted that on July 27, 2010, he sold 27 grams of crack cocaine to an undercover agent with the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF). The drug transaction took place at the Smokin' Aces store that was located in Huntington. Scott further admitted that he distributed a total of more than 55 grams of crack cocaine and 31 80-milligram oxycodone tablets.

Scott faces up to 20 years in prison and a \$1 million fine when he is sentenced on October 24, 2011.

This case is being prosecuted as part of a yearlong undercover operation that targeted illegal drugs and firearms crimes in the Huntington area. The operation was led by the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF) and assisted by the U.S. Attorney's Office, the Huntington Police Department, and various other law enforcement agencies. It was announced to the public in March after a grand jury returned indictments against 55 defendants.

This case was prosecuted as part of an ongoing effort led by the United States Attorney's Office for the Southern District of West Virginia to combat the illicit sale and misuse of prescription drugs. The U.S. Attorney's Office, joined by various federal, state and local law enforcement agencies, remain committed to aggressively pursuing and shutting down illegal pill trafficking, eliminating open air drug markets and curtailing the spread of opiate painkillers in communities across the Southern District.

The Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF) conducted the investigation. Special Assistant United States Attorney Joseph F. Adams is in charge of the prosecution.

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